



CALIFORNIA GARDEN

IN THIS NUMBER

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MRS. W. S. THOMAS

TIN CANS COME A TINKLING

NOVEMBER, 1928

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No. 5

VACATION NOTES

By J. G. Morley

On my vacation for 1928, I decided to indulge in an auto trip to see the various city park systems of the State. On October 10th, Mrs. Morley and I commenced our trip, via the coast route, to San Francisco, returning by the inland route through Sacramento and the San Joaquin Valley to Los Angeles, and then via the balance of the inland route to San Diego, arriving home on Wednesday, October 24th.

On the trip North, we visited Long Beach for a few hours to note the park development along the ocean front in that city. These improvements were commenced only about three years ago and reflect great credit upon those in charge for the fine results attained. The selection of the trees, shrubs and flowering plants for this work embrace those varieties that do well along the shore line and the results attained have produced a charming effect and a fine addition to the Long Beach park system.

From there we went to Santa Barbara, calling on the Park Superintendent, Mr. Orpet, who is one of the best posted plantmen in the United States. After viewing the parks, which are very well kept but not very extensive, Mr. Orpet conducted us on a trip to some of the very fine estates in Santa Barbara and vicinity, where we noted the wide variety of horticultural subjects gathered from all over the world, which thrive so well in this favored climate of the Pacific Coast.

After leaving Santa Barbara, we motored to Santa Cruz, via Salinas. The drive from Santa Barbara to Santa Cruz was very interesting—the change of scene from the shoreline drive and inland through San Luis Obispo and Paso Robles, through the beautiful wooded hills covered with oaks, manzanita, toyon and other native shrubs—then on to King City and Salinas—a country of open plain and rich farming land; thence to Santa Cruz from Salinas, along the picturesque shore which winds around the sand dunes and inlets, and then through a scenic country of rolling hills into Watsonville, the center of the apple industry in the Pajaro valley, where

we passed through miles of orchard; it was during the height of the picking season and it seemed there were apples everywhere—from Watsonville to Santa Cruz there are changing scenes of timbered country and picturesque valleys—a delightful ride. As this was our first trip through this part of California, we could not help but marvel at the beauty unfolded at every turn.

After spending a short time at Santa Cruz, we motored through the redwood forests to San Jose. This part of the trip was marvelous. the giant Sequoias were an inspiration, and an incentive to co-operate in every way to preserve these noble trees and groves in other locations of the State, which it is hoped will be included in the new state parks, should that constitutional amendment be carried at the coming election.

After passing through the redwoods, we motored through the orchard country of the Santa Clara valley, and while late in the season, it gave one an impression of the extensive fruit industry of this part of California.

We stayed over night at San Jose and noted the magic change that is going on in this city. I well recollect my first visit there forty years ago, and on several occasions since; but had no idea of the rapid changes that are taking place there and all along the peninsula into San Francisco. We arrived in San Francisco on Friday afternoon and were the guests of Mr. John McLaren, Superintendent of San Francisco Parks, until Sunday evening. Mr. McLaren escorted us all over the Park system, the Presidio, and many points of interest in and around the city. Every time I go to San Francisco, I always enjoy the beauties of Golden Gate Park. To see the park in its real beauty, one has to leave the main drive-ways and wander around through the pathways to note the extent of the work that has been accomplished to make of this the finest example of a man-made park in existence.

I well recalled on my first visit, in 1889, the drifting sand dunes; and can now appreciate the struggle there must have been to

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complete the park under the handicaps that have been overcome. Golden Gate Park, though it is a man-made park, is so natural in its setting, with the fine meadow effects, and small lakes located in scenic places; the woods, the extensive variety of both trees and shrubs, all blend together so perfectly that it seems hardly possible that any one could have had the vision to produce such a harmonious natural effect. In walking through, to note the thousands of rhododendrons and azaleas of many types all in perfect condition, makes one feel that here in San Diego we might duplicate to some extent large plantings of these elegant flowering shrubs.

There has also been built a new stadium with seating provided for about 60,000 people and officially opened with a football game on Saturday, the 13th of October. This together with the fine Natural History Museum, the DeYoung Art Gallery and Museum, the Spreckels Art Gallery, the Flieshacher Swimming Pool, conservatories, bowling greens, baseball fields, golf links, and the children's playground provide a diversity of entertaining features that are appreciated by the citizens of San Francisco, and are the admiration of all visitors.

Monday, Oct. 15th, we spent with Mr. Kerfoot, the Superintendent of Parks of the City of Oakland, inspecting the park system, which is a credit to the city. A very interesting feature we enjoyed was the feeding of the ducks on Lake Merritt at 10:00 a. m. The ducks and other water fowl assembled at their feeding place promptly and when the man arrived with three sacks of grain and sounded the gong, the birds in thousands were ready for their breakfast; feeding the birds takes place twice each day, at 10:00 a. m. and at 4:00 p. m. Later in the season when the large ducks arrive, double the amount of feed is used, the feed being provided by the city. This is one of the main attractions of the park department during the winter season.

Oakland has a beautiful forest park situated among the hills, above Skyline Drive—several hundred acres of fine redwood and other trees native to California thrive in this beautiful location; picnic grounds are provided in many places all equipped with tables and fireplaces, for the enjoyment of visitors. A fine road system is being constructed and an up-to-date Zoological Garden is in the course of construction. These features of the park system, together with other well-kept parks, materially add to the attractions of the city.

Leaving Oakland the following day on our way to Sacramento via Tunnel Boulevard, a very scenic route among the hills, then through thousands of acres of asparagus fields and along the shore of the American and Sac-

ramento rivers, passing through many fine orchards and vineyards, we experienced one of the most enjoyable parts of the trip.

In Sacramento we inspected the park system with the Superintendent, Mr. Evans, and noted the many improvements under construction in the extensive system. The Capitol grounds and Sutter's Fort maintained by the State were the most noteworthy of the parks—the beautiful trees and well-kept grounds of the State Capitol were deserving of all praise.

At Fresno I was agreeably surprised to see the improvements that have been accomplished in Roeding park the past four years. Mr. Rasmussen, the Superintendent, has transformed this park into one of the finest in the state. There is a fine outdoor organ in the park and a special concert was given for our benefit. The organ pavilion has a beautiful setting among the trees with a large open lawn area in front—when concerts are given, benches are placed on the grass for the convenience of the audience. When the proposed improvements on additional area are completed, as well as extensions in other parts of the city, Fresno will be in the foreground in its system of parks.

The Los Angeles Park system is progressing rapidly both in improvements and extensions. During the past several months I have had the opportunity to cover nearly all the area with Mr. Van Griffith, President of the Park Commission, and Mr. Frank Shearer, the Superintendent. Under the Charter amendments adopted about three years ago, providing a definite amount in the taxes, a large addition to park funds of a permanent character is available. This has made it possible to adopt a stable policy in the development of the system and the results accomplished are proving the wisdom of the Charter amendment.

Among the improvements noted is the new nursery establishment in Griffith park, which I believe is the most up-to-date of any park department; hundreds of thousands of trees, shrubs and flowering plants being grown to perfection for distribution throughout the system.

The beautiful Fern Canyon in Griffith park, where hundreds of tree ferns are growing is a veritable beauty spot. The new automatic water system all over the hills of this 3500 acre park, when completed, will make of Griffith park one of the most beautiful and verdant parks in the country.

In this park there are three 18-hole golf links, all in grass—miles of bridle paths and drives; this with the beautiful oak trees and native shrubs, provides one of the finest parks in the country.

The system from one end to the other is

scattered over an area of forty miles, the maintenance is kept up to a very high standard and continual improvements are going on for the benefit of the people.

The Pasadena parks are under the able management of Mr. Skut, the Superintendent, and have been very much improved; an 18-hole grass golf course has just been completed; new bowling greens and roque courts constructed; the grounds of the Civic Center have been seeded to lawns and a choice selection of trees, shrubs and flowers planted to embellish this fine area in the center of the city. The Park department has charge of all street trees, which are kept in good condition, presenting an object lesson to many cities. Pasadena is to be congratulated on the condition of its park system.

The Fall Flower Show of Pasadena Floral Association was held during our visit. The exhibits of plants and cut flowers were excellent, especially the roses, dahlias and chrysanthemums. A display of orchids and cypripediums in full bloom was the finest I have ever seen, not excepting those of the large growers in Europe, where orchids are grown to perfection. Several creditable garden displays were on exhibition. Taken altogether, the show was the best I have ever seen given by the Pasadena Society.

At Pomona, we visited Canesha Park—the high elevation at several points provide commanding views for many miles of mountain and valley, overlooking the orange groves and orchards of the San Gabriel Valley, with cities and towns scattered throughout the valley, and others nestling along the foothills of the mountains. The park is kept in a high degree of cultivation and the fine collection of trees and shrubs, good roads, picnic grounds and playground speak well of the excellent care of those in charge.

Our last call was at Riverside. We spent a short time in the City Park, looking over the collection of cacti and other features, noting the well kept appearance of the trees and shrubs. As time was limited, we were unable to spend as much time at Riverside as we had intended, and arrived home the evening of October 24th, after a tour of 1800 miles, through beautiful and interesting places of California.

NEW COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The announcement is made of the appointment of two Floral Association Committees, Program and House. The Program Committee will consist of Mrs. Robert Morrison, Mr. Walter Birch and Mrs. F. S. Callender. The House Committee will be Mrs. Mary Greer, Miss Alice Halliday, Mrs. H. W. Gibbs and Mrs. L. P. Brothers.

ARE YOU PLANNING A WATER POOL?

By Mrs. W. S. Thomas

If you have the water garden fever, it is wise at the start to consider the fact that it is an incurable disease—only increases with age and experience—so plan for two-foot depth and as large as space will allow. There are so many varieties of water plants and gold fish—so much that is interesting—that the deeper you go in the work the more room you will want.

Make the pool irregular in outline and level with the ground, that is, follow natural laws, both for beauty and utility. If elevated much above ground level the water will be too much heated from the sun's rays—there will be too much change of temperature between day and night, unless the pool is a large one—and water lilies will not thrive if the water is changeable.

Plant the lily roots in wooden boxes about two feet square and one foot deep, in soil composed of three-fourths good garden loam and one-fourth well rotted cow fertilizer. If the latter is not obtainable use Blood and Bone 1 to 30. After planting the crown even with top of soil, put inch of sand over whole surface of box. This holds the dirt from washing out and also keeps the inquisitive fish from nosing round and perhaps loosening the roots of the plants. Allow at least one foot of water above lily roots, and three or four feet of space for each one to spread its leaves. Some will need much more—My Blue Triumph has leaves 18 inches across and stems 5½ feet in length, but it is planted in a large tub. The size of leaves can be controlled by putting in smaller receptacle and blossoms will be more in number, though smaller.

Colors and kinds of lilies are a matter of taste, and the size of your pocketbook—the standard hardy kinds are cheaper and give usually just as good results, while the newer varieties are more expensive, like all new styles. It is much like buying a dress—that is, you can get goods at 25 or 30 cents which will be as pretty a color and wear as well as material at four or five dollars—but you will not have the quality. The hardy kinds are always safe and sure, and in any color, any shade, except blue.

The tropical ones include many shades of blue as well as other colors. These have bulb roots which start into growth later in spring but also keep flowering later in fall. They seem to work on Union Schedule, as all nature does, if you watch its time.

During winter their leaves may nearly, or all, disappear, but don't think them dead. Replant the little bulb, or the root, in fresh soil. If roots are large, either hardy or tropical, divide them.

The night blooming kinds are the most gorgeous in coloring. They open about four o'clock and close during heat of the day, while the hardy lilies come and go with the sun. So one can have continuous bloom by having both day and night bloomers. Then there is the miniature or pigmy lily, which comes only in yellow, and white, with blossoms two inches across, very prolific and especially adapted to tubs or some smaller corner of your pool.

There are several of the hardy lilies which are well adapted to tub culture, in case you have not space for a real pool, though I find the water heats too much where our warm California sun rests on it. In the temperate zones, tub culture is much more satisfactory than here, since the water keeps much cooler.

Many lily blossoms are delightfully fragrant, especially the tropicals, with that exotic perfume which one can get several feet away. And the flowers last from three to seven days according to variety. They also are good keepers after being cut, provided you do not crush or bruise the stem—give deep water, and change daily.

In large pools you will want the wonderful Pink Lotus or the yellow one of the east, and if your pocketbook is as large as your pool, get the new red and double white. But Lotus are greedy, they spread by runners and will take all the space, if not controlled. But do not move a Lotus except when dormant.

There are many other water plants which are desirable, especially the Water Hawthorne which has white, fragrant blossoms, and is a lover of cooler weather and water. It is the only pool inhabitant that blooms in winter—it may quit work entirely in the summer, though if your pool is deep enough and a little shaded, it will perhaps bloom sparingly out of season.

The common Water Hyacinth you will want for its pretty lavender blossoms, and its long feathery roots to catch the fish spawn, and for the baby fish to hide among them from their cannibalistic parents and friends. The variety Azura is very different in habit—beautiful lavender-blue flowers, but plant needs considerable space.

Water Fern, Lettuce, Canna and Poppy, the Arrowhead, Variegated Sweet Flag, Ponderosa, Butterfly Lily, Cat-tail, and others, grow in shallow water. Around the pool plant some tall growing garden plants, for a natural effect—they also help protect water from sun and wind.

The Wild Rice makes a grand centerpiece. It will grow eight to ten feet high and its long feathery panicles of bloom are so graceful. It is an annual but seeds itself, and grows as quickly as Jack's beanstalk.

There are six different kinds of snails for your pool scavengers, and varieties of goldfish are legion.

Fish seldom are sick in the open, and if they are fed angleworms (chopped) or scraped raw beef or fish meat, they will be a much darker richer red in color, also will grow faster and be stronger.

Feed them a little crumbed Rolled Oats or cooked cornmeal—vary their food. Some of your friends will tell you fish need not be fed, in pools. That is true, yes; they would live, but so would you, if you had, say, only one meal a day. But your fish will grow much faster with feeding.

You will find many kinds of curious creatures in your pools, some seem to just come, some are hatched from eggs of insects deposited in the water, some are harmful to your fish and others are not, but if you keep your fish healthy they can fight their enemies, and anyhow there isn't much you can do to prevent the water animals coming. You know Nature usually adjusts herself in spite of all our puny efforts at any correction.

Clean out your pool once a year, in February, before the fish spawn; after that, fill in as water evaporates.

You will find water pools the best tonic any doctor ever prescribed, and the easiest to take.

Beginning with 1929, the San Diego Floral Association will conduct an annual competition for the best gardens in the city. Through the generosity of Mr. Frank Strausser and Mr. John W. Snyder, the association is able to offer three valuable trophies for the best gardens in three classes, as follows: one to the best large garden, one to the best medium sized garden, and one to the best small garden. The trophies shall be held by the winner during the succeeding year, and any person winning one of them three times shall gain permanent possession of the trophy.

The committee will draw up a set of rules for the competition, defining the limits in size of the various classes, the approximate dates for judging, the scale of points for judging, the method and date for making entries, etc. It may be said here that the judging will take place four times each year—Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Only in this way can all the gardens compete on equal terms. The first judging will probably be about February first, with the other dates coming at intervals of three months. Entries will probably close about January twentieth.

In other communities such a plan has been carried out for years, and with great success. Public interest is aroused and there is very keen competition for the annual honor of winning the much advertised trophies. Every owner of a good garden should plan to enter in his respective class.

Further details will appear in the December and January numbers of this magazine, and in the daily newspapers.

The Nov. and Dec. Gardens

THE GARDEN

By Walter Birch

Winter is coming on apace, and it will soon be rose planting time again, so the sooner you prepare the ground for the rose bed the better it will be for the rose bushes.

A sheltered position is desirable if possible and a good loamy well drained soil with lots of body to it (that is to say not too light) is a good soil for roses. If you have the drainage a heavier soil is also good.

Where the drainage is good and there is no hard pan, very deep digging is recommended, even to the extent of trenching to a depth of two feet, beginning at one end of the bed and moving the soil to the other end, then throwing in stable or cow manure six inches deep in the bottom of the first trench, and spading the soil from the second trench on top of the manure until trench is half filled, then add another few inches of manure covered again by soil from second trench and keep repeating this process until you dig out the last trench which is filled with the soil out of the first trench after applying the two layers of manure as in the other trenches.

Keep this bed well watered and cultivated and you will find that it will settle down considerably. Before the final digging which should precede planting another good application of well rotted manure well dug in will not hurt, as roses are fond of plenty of manure, or if you do not spade it under, use as a mulch on the surface of the ground to help conserve moisture and prevent baking, and to be gradually worked into the soil in the ordinary course of cultivation and irrigation.

To the average amateur with a small garden this way of doing things no doubt looks rather formidable, but the general idea is, use plenty of good cow or stable manure, dig deeply and do it now!

Regarding the question of whether to use budded or own root stock, it looks as though the majority use budded stock, altho' some claim that own root stock is equally good. However, if you use budded stock it is important that you get bushes budded on ragged

robin stock, which is generally conceded to be the best.

Do not plant budded stock so that the bud or union is more than one or two inches below the surface.

In selecting your bushes see that they are well grown healthy stock of fair size, and be sure that the roots have not been dried out by being exposed to the air, so if possible buy them where they have been properly heeled in the ground in the nursery yard, otherwise the vitality of the bush has been impaired by exposure of the roots to the air and has had a serious set back even before you have planted it.

When planting your bushes be sure to dig large holes about four feet apart, cut off all damaged roots, and plant bush to a depth of about two inches above bud, carefully spreading roots to a natural position in hole and filling in soil around same with your right hand while you hold bush in place with your left. Carefully tread soil firmly around plant and water copiously so as to thoroughly fill in soil around roots, cultivating surface when dry enough and mulch surface around bush with some barnyard manure. Tops of bushes should be properly pruned at time of planting; this is important, and usually means a severe cutting back to the proper buds. Many amateurs hate to sacrifice the bush by severe pruning, and in that way seriously handicap their future success with roses.

Plant your stocks now if you have not already done so, strong plants set out now will give you fragrant and beautiful flowers for winter and spring blooming. Snapdragon, Columbine, Pansies and other plants can all be set out now. Don't forget another planting of early blooming Spencer Sweet Peas for spring and summer blooming, and also that wonderfully satisfactory plant for shady locations, the Cineraria, of which there are some wonderful strains to be had now.

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EDITORIAL

NEW CONTRIBUTOR

Garden readers will be interested in the article by Mrs. Coralinn B. Tuttle on "Iris Gardens," appearing in this issue. In submitting the article, Mrs. Tuttle writes as follows: "I have just returned to California after three or four years in Washington, D. C., where I worked with Iris and such enthusiastic lovers and growers of them as Ben Morrison, Dr. Shull, James Adams and others. I brought my collection with me, of several hundred varieties and they seem to be thriving after 3 months in their new soil and I think after this year I may be able to tell some interesting things about the adaptability of different varieties to your soil and climatic conditions." The Editor sincerely hopes we may have more articles from Mrs. Tuttle later on.

JAPANESE BUCKWHEAT AGAIN

An inquiry published last month with reference to the value of Japanese Buckwheat in the crowding out of Bermuda grass, was fi-

nally referred to Prof. G. W. Hendry of the University of California, who writes as follows: "In response to your inquiry of October 22, relative to the economic possibilities of Japanese buckwheat in California, I would say that this crop has never attained commercial importance in this state. We have grown it experimentally, and a few field plantings have been attempted from time to time in various localities, but producers have been unable to compete with the eastern product, which is largely produced in the New England states and adjacent territory. Of the various kinds of buckwheat, the Japanese has given the best results in California, but in order to make a satisfactory crop it must be grown in a mild, fairly humid coast climate. In the great interior valleys of California the atmosphere is too hot and dry and causes the blossoms to drop without setting seed, but there are many coast valleys in which the crop is well adapted. It is, of course, a summer crop, and is sensitive to even a slight frost. For this reason it would require irrigated land. The product has a comparatively low market value, and consequently it cannot compete with more valuable irrigated crops in our better districts. The eastern production is confined to poor soils in the mountainous districts."

Although Prof. Hendry's letter covers the commercial possibilities of this buckwheat, its value for the purpose originally in question, is still undetermined. Probably no one in California has yet given it a trial with that end in view, but judging from its requirements as outlined by Prof. Hendry, it is doubtful if it will, in this relatively dry climate, smother Bermuda grass.

GRAY GOOSE

It has been a number of months since the Gray Goose (Mrs. E. S. Ryan) appeared in these columns. Since her removal to Los Angeles, where she now makes her home with her son, Mrs. Ryan's health has improved to some extent. Her many friends in the Floral Association will be glad that the Gray Goose is with us this month in "Tin Cans Come Tinkling."

USE YOUR LIBRARY

The Association maintains a very fine reference library of books and magazines dealing with garden subjects, in the Association Building for the pleasure and use of its members and friends. Current issues and back numbers of the best garden publications and books dealing with special and general subjects are available. Some very rare and interesting books will be found in this library. Why not make use of it?

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IRIS GARDENS

Every garden should possess several clumps, if not several beds, of Iris. In our busy everyday life, plants that require the least care and attention, but giving satisfactory blooms, are desirable. The Bearded Iris after the first year will give you that satisfaction. It will grow under almost any condition. Its greatest enemy is water so that in itself seems to make it desirable for California.

To the uninitiated, Iris means the dear old "Flag" or Fleur de Lis, but in the past twenty years or more there have been such great developments that now in that group commonly called German or Bearded Iris we have thousands of varieties in every shade of the rainbow.

Some of the later varieties accepted by the American Iris society as being good in color, form and growing habits, are expensive, as it takes many years from the time of pollination to harvest enough rhizomes to put on the market. However, there are many beautiful varieties because of rapidity of increase and years of existence.

One argument against Iris is that theirs is a short blooming season. By careful selection here in California one can have Iris blooming almost every month in the year. *Stylosa* begins to bloom in September or October. Early in April comes the dainty *Cristata*, only a few inches high but a pretty companion to daffodils. In May, besides the Dutch and Spanish Iris, come the early bearded followed by Intermediate and the late blooming, giving a constant blooming period of three months. With the Japanese, Siberian and Water Iris blooming late, what other family can do better?

Anyone possessing a pool should have at least one clump of each species by or near it. There is nothing lovelier than an Iris bloom, hovering like a beautiful butterfly near the water.

Some like to carry out a color scheme and choose to place clumps of Iris of the color or a contrast, here and there against the shrubbery. Some are like myself, and have Iris wherever they have an extra foot of ground to spare. An Iris walk is a joy if one has space for it. A long path lined on both sides with bearded Iris of every color is attractive as the rainbow with the treasure at the end, a pool or garden bench banked with Japanese and Siberians.

Another attractive plan is a square plot divided by grass walks in the form of an X. The four pie-shaped garden beds filled with Iris and shrubs marking each corner is beautiful. One lovely garden here in San Diego that ambles down a hillside has large abutments filled with Iris and the effect in the

spring will be exquisite.

One never uses such adjectives as gorgeous for Iris. Theirs is the delicate beauty of the lining of pearl shells or of the rainbow. One feels a tender, reverential love of their beauty and they have a fatal fascination, because after you acquire your first half dozen varieties, you are bitten by the Iritis bug and never again will you be satisfied with what you have, even though it runs into the hundreds.

A year ago, through the efforts of James Adams, President of the Washington, D. C., Iris Society, Iris growers all over the county contributed rhizomes for a national blooming catalogue. Mr. Adams was given permission to plant them in a beautiful location in the Walter Reed Hospital gardens. If I am not mistaken he told me that there were over fifteen hundred varieties. Next May and into late July that will be well worth visiting, if any of the readers are visiting Washington at that time. Incidentally Mr. Adams' own gardens are open to the public as also are Dr. J. Marion Shull, Earl Sheets and the Simpson Iris gardens in Arlington are beautiful.

May I also say that Iris are planted around the circular gardens in the White House grounds, coming on after the tulips, and the Japanese around the fountain is a lovely sight.

"Garden Iris" by B. J. Morisson and published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farmers' Bulletin No. 1406, price ten cents, is the most comprehensive information on Iris to the amateur.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW

The annual Chrysanthemum Show of the San Diego Floral Association was held Monday afternoon, October 22nd, in the Floral Building. It was most gratifying both as to entries and attendance and also netted the Association a small sum, \$10.76, from the silver offering and sale of flowers.

The following awards were made :

General Display—Erskine Campbell, first; Mrs. Heermance, special.

Display of Show Type—Erskine Campbell, first; Mrs. Ed. Strahlmann, second.

Display of Garden Type—Mrs. Owens, first; Mrs. Heermance, second.

Pompons—Mrs. Owens, first; Mrs. Strahlmann, second.

Best Bowl or Vase—Mrs. Owens, first; Mrs. Reif, special.

Best Basket—Mrs. W. M. Smelser, first; H. D. Bock, second.

A "special" was awarded Mrs. Strahlmann for her specimen "Captivation," a lovely anemone-flowered type.

Many of the flowers were taken to the Naval Hospital and the remainder sold for the benefit of the Association.

TIN CANS COME TINKLING

You have heard of the small boy who recited: "A lie is an abomination to the Lord, and a very present help in time of trouble." In spite of contumely, criticism and caustic remarks the tin can is a very present help to the small gardener. It is sometimes a life saver to the little plant whose roots must be immediately covered from wind and sun. Then the plant can be watered, put in shade and be safely moist for a day, when a porous crock would be dried by the wind in a few hours. Even if you sink a flower pot in the soil marauding roots of larger plants will crowd about it and suck out all the moisture. An armour of tin is shield against greedy roots and drying wind. When the can is full of roots, and time to turn the plant out to pastures new, with hammer and wide chisel it is easy to slit can on each side and pull off the tin. The tipping of a tall plant upside down and knocking pot on edge of bench sometimes, in amateur hands, ends in breakage of pot, plant and roots. Please pocket your derisive grin while told that the tin can is of a very retiring disposition. It is willing to take a back seat, to be camouflaged with greenery or scenery, and hastens to cover itself with an unobtrusive russet brown color. To dump them promiscuously in conspicuous places is really a cruelty to cans as well as to landscapes. That is why they cry out loud when so maltreated. They'd much rather hold roots in a nursery, or be buried alive. Of course all this talk is wasted on anyone who refuses to look on the other side of the shield, especially if made of tin. A can upon the river's brim is a tin can to him, and nothing more, and probably he put it there.

Not long ago I saw an immense display of crockery. Great Ali Baba jars, bowls of King Cole dimensions, giant urns fit for a Goliath's bones. Some had graceful shapes, but all were of most bizarre colors. They shrieked to heaven in strident hues that scorched one's deafened eyes with jarring din—really, it would take many mixed metaphors to describe the jargon. Information said they were "ornamental vases for gardens." Butterflies, Roses and Rainbows defend us! Let me cool my singed eyes on a rust colored tin can. To put such boisterous crockery in a flower garden would look like "hunting ducks with a brass band."

GRAY GOOSE.

"GARDEN CINDERELLAS": HOW TO GROW LILIES IN THE GARDEN

By Helen M. Fox

In this delightful book (McMillan & Co., New York) the stately lily, favorite in ancient,

medieval and modern times, receives a well merited attention. The author, who has grown lilies for fourteen years, knows not only all the kinds she describes, but is acquainted with the discouragements which are the lot of the amateur grower. Her advice is practical for she knows whereof she speaks. All the best information on the subject of lilies is here available for those interested. Mrs. Fox particularly emphasizes the fact that Southern California is a splendid place for growing these interesting flowers.

The book is lavishly illustrated with color plates, photographs and drawings, and gives the history, growth habits, methods of increase, disease and insect protection, and use indoors, potted and cut. All the known American, European, and Asiatic species of lilies are listed and classified as to native habitat, flower and foliage characteristics, season of bloom, depth for planting, propagation methods, and varieties.

Mrs. Fox has made the growing of lilies her hobby. She has visited gardens all over the world and has grown most of the varieties herself, many of them from seed.

Her style of writing is delightful. Descriptions of flowers are technically correct, yet the descriptions are unusually colorful. For instance in describing the wild orange lily, she says:

"A fiery cup with flaring, slightly rippled margins held aloft in a slender green stem, clothed with a few star-like whorls of leaves. The stem is from two to three feet high. The leaves are thin with margins finely roughened and arranged in whorls with a few scattered above and below. They are not crowded but spaced to look like green stars."

From this it will be seen that the book is not dull reading even for those whose hobby is not the "Cinderella of the Garden."

HELEN DYSART.

NEW JERSEY PLANTS OVER A MILLION TREES

New Jersey land owners ordered 1,150,950 forest tree seedlings for planting last spring, according to the State Department of Conservation and Development. This is 74,350 more than were ordered in the State in the spring of 1927. The seedlings were planted on municipal watersheds, private forest holdings, idle farm lands and land not suitable for agricultural use.

Morris led all other countries with orders totaling approximately 200,000 seedlings. The largest single order was placed by the East Orange Water Department for 50,000 red pine and 50,000 Norway spruce.—American Foresters.

LILY CULTURE SMALL WORRY IN SAN DIEGO

All Varieties of Garden Easily Cultivated and Make Vigorous Growths Here

By Ada Perry

The great number of bulbs due for planting in October includes lilies.

The movie titles have some foundation when it comes to lilies. There are indeed "red lilies," "yellow lilies," spotted lilies and striped ones. But they aren't heroines whose innocence must be loud-pedaled. They are, in San Diego, a large and vigorous-growing family of bulbs that can greatly enhance your garden.

"Easter lilies" come first. They will grow in your yard with as much enthusiasm as a rose bush. They do not flower until Memorial day unless forced under glass, however. Many types of these grow in San Diego, but the *Longiflorum*, probably, has the longest trumpets and the greatest number on a stalk. One grower reports 18 on a stem last year.

Sand Always Helps

There are so many contradicting statements about the kind of soil these white emblems like best that only a hedging statement will appear here. Any kind they like is the kind they should have. It isn't safe to say whether it should be sour or sweet because of conflicting experiences on the part of the city's gardeners. But, at least, the soil should be alive and not sterile or poor, well drained, of course, and the agreed texture is a sandy loam. No one advocates anything other than extremely well decomposed manure for fertilizer. It is always safe to surround the bulb with sand and it should be planted deep, not less than six inches for the large size and about four for the small. By the way, many of the miniature bulbs taken from clumps will bloom in the spring if planted now.

Shade is recommended for Japanese lilies and the Regal, but the Easter type will glory in a flood of sunshine, and its flower will be larger and lustier and more fragrant because of King Sol.

Regal Needs Early Start

Those Japanese lilies, which include the *Auratum* and *Rubrum*, usually become available a little later than this. But the Regal lily should go in as soon as possible. It resembles the *Auratum* to a certain extent, but is smaller and of finer texture. The yellow throat and pinkish edges and slender stem are some of its distinguished attributes. The dark red bulb should be given a choice spot to grow in.

The choice local yellow lily is the yellow calla. Many gardeners have placed this pure gold flower in a dark and chilly spot near its white relations and have had bad luck with it. The truth of the matter is it likes sunshine

and warmth when blooming. Plenty of moisture under foot is acceptable. The slab-like root need not be covered as deeply as most lilies. Don't forget its sand cushion and do not be disappointed when the leaves disappear after blooming. Mulch the spot and wait until next spring for them to appear again.

Red lily need be no other than *amaryllis Johnsonii*. Forget about the pink *Belladonna* and plant this one for handsomeness and blooming qualities. The *Johnsonii* glows like a ruby in the garden and it can produce spring and fall bloom crop.

Hybrid Amaryllis Sought

Hybrid *amaryllis* are beginning to be sought here, in spite of the terrible setback a few devoted gardeners have given them by planting them in symmetrical open beds. If any treatment can make these *amaryllis*, hybrids or otherwise, uninteresting this can. The foliage looks thick in such a bed and the proud stalks of flowers have no background. Plant them in a garden as you would place furniture in a room.

Hybrid *amaryllis* range in color from shell pink to cherry red, and are striped and shaded on oyster-white backgrounds. The finest blossoms are as shapely as a Regal lily and are as fragrant.

(In San Diego Union)

OCTOBER MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Floral Association was held Tuesday evening, October 16th, in the Floral Building.

The president, Mrs. Greer, opened the meeting and made various announcements—chiefly concerning the chrysanthemum show to be held later in the month. The general subject for the evening was "Fall Planting" and Mr. Birch of the Harris Seed Store was first speaker. He discussed "Sweet Peas, Their Planting and Care." Preparation of the soil long enough before planting was especially emphasized. He gave many helpful suggestions to those interested in growing sweet peas.

Mrs. Thomas spoke next, taking as her subject "Water Gardens and Gold Fish." Mrs. Thomas told many interesting facts new, probably, to most of her listeners.

Last, but by no means least, Miss Sessions took the floor, speaking on "Bulbs." As usual, the audience listened delightedly to her remarks. She spoke of the respective merits of such bulbs as narcissus, ranunculus, *Watsonia* and *freezia*. She also described the interesting specimens of shrubs and flowers which had been brought.

The meeting then adjourned and delicious refreshments were served by the house committee, W. Sinclair, secretary.

CACTUS GROWING FOR WINDOW GARDENING

Every 30 or 40 years styles and fashions come back again; even in plants this rule holds good. A few years ago the tiny Japanese gardens in bowls were found in homes of wealth and in the windows of the florists who believed in the artistic arrangement of plants and flowers. During the holiday season always appeared glass bowls of tiny woody things, such as ferns, green moss, and the red partridge berries.

Both of these have been largely replaced by cactus plants or miniature desert gardens, as they are called. There is a great demand for these plants, and the florists have a hard time to get them fast enough to furnish the orders coming in each day.

A Fad With a Background

Speaking of styles returning after a number of years, one learns that 40 years ago the German people and the English created a market for cacti for greenhouses and window gardens. They had to send to America for cacti because these are almost entirely American plants and grow abundantly only in South America, Central America, Mexico, and in the extreme south of the United States, in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. In the more northern states, a few varieties are found wild, but they are less characteristic.

Back in 1830 several wealthy amateurs took up the cultivation of cacti. The Duke of Devonshire and the Duke of Bedford had very fine specimens. Kew Gardens, England, now has a notable collection. One of the Italian Botanical Gardens has also assembled a large number of cacti.

While the English were organizing cactus clubs and printing cactus magazines, the people in the United States became interested and formed several state societies. Philadelphia had an especially strong cactus club and printed a fine monthly magazine pertaining to cacti.

Now the fad has come back again, and men and women are deeply interested in growing these plants, not only because they are curious and interesting, but because the flowers shown by some varieties are almost as handsome as orchids. To be sure, they are smaller than orchids, but the colors are exquisite. Then, too, these little plants, when in miniature and when planted with other succulents, are very artistic for a living-room table or as a centerpiece for the dining-room table.

A little bit of Arizona or New Mexico is very interesting right in one's own window. If one sends to these countries for cactus plants, they cost very little indeed, and it is great fun to arrange them oneself. If one does not want to send far away, go to the florists' shops and the greenhouses and hunt up different kinds. One will have to pay much more buying them all arranged in bowls than if one does it oneself. It is lots of fun to arrange them except for one thing—the prickles. In handling cacti, hands must be protected. Put on heavy kid gloves. Use sugar tongs to grasp the cacti when transplanting them.

Favorable Conditions

One of the chief qualities that recommends cacti as house plants is the ease with which they grow if they are given plenty of sun and the right soil. They need water only about once a week, and if left unwatered for a month they will yet survive, because the plants themselves have water stored up in them and can get along without care for some time. Too much moisture will rot certain types of cactus plants, and that is why glazed bowls must be deep and well drained.

A window on the south or east is the best place to grow these curious and interesting plants. Steam heat, or hot-water heat, or hot air, will not injure them, but gas, whether used in lighting or heating, is disagreeable to cacti, and, indeed to all plants.

Cacti should be planted in earthen pots (common flower pots) about four inches deep or a trifle deeper, and then set down into the

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THE NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATIONS
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glazed bowls or dishes that are wanted in the decorative scheme. After setting the pot in the bowl, fill in the space with earth so that the pot will not be seen, and then in the earth outside the rim of the earthen pot plant cacti with flat-growing roots. If the bowl is deep enough it can be filled two-thirds full of small stones and the earth may be piled over these and up above the bowl in the center.

In the writer's window garden she has large green, blue and yellow Italian bowls, and for the smaller cacti, Spanish pottery. They are lovely bits of color. If the reader wishes small desert gardens, say for the center of a dining-room table, or to put around the room, she must put them in the sun in the morning, after which they may be placed wherever desired. They positively must have sun part of each day. They should blossom during the spring months, and when in blossom they need to have water whenever the soil looks very dry.

One must be very careful to mix the soil just right. One-third sand, two-thirds garden soil, a small amount of fine gravel and last but not least, a small amount of pounded brick, to keep a little moisture in the soil, and a few pieces of charcoal to sweeten the soil, are the necessary combination. Mix this all together and after filling the pot with small stones (not pebbles) pile the earth in a little above the center. Now transplant the different species of cacti in the pots, taking care to make it look like a tiny desert, and place pieces of cement and odd stones among the plants in order to make it look natural.

Choosing and Combining

Now as to kinds: There are hundreds of different varieties of cacti. When ordering for the window garden, be sure to ask for "miniature cacti". One does not want any that will grow several feet tall.

The mamillarias, opuntias, phyllocacti, and cerei can be arranged in one bowl with a few other succulents such as sedums and echeverias, but they must be given different amounts of water. The mamillarias and echinocactus must not be watered oftener than once a week and should be kept very dry and hot. The others the writer waters with a small pitcher, taking care not to let the water get around the mamillarias or other plants which thrive with a dry soil.

The writer has over 100 varieties and finds them so fascinating she is still collecting them.

Buy some cacti, a bowl or two, and see how fascinating these tiny desert plants become to one interested in nature—Christian Science Monitor.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting of the Floral Association will be held in the Floral Building, Balboa Park, on the evening of the 20th. We are to have the exceptional pleasure this month of listening to Mr. Clinton G. Abbott, Director of the San Diego Natural History Museum, who has but recently returned from an extended automobile trip through Europe. Mr. Abbott's subject will be "Some European Gardens." As Mr. Abbott is an unusually keen observer his comments on the gardens of Europe will be interesting and instructive. A full attendance at the November meeting is earnestly desired.

BROKEN POTS MAKE GOOD SEED PANS

If you have any large plant pots which have been broken at the top, do not throw them away as useless. With an old coarse file, file round the top just below the break. When a deep incision has been made, gently tap the pot above the filed line and it will break off evenly all round. Finish off by filing down all the sharp edges. These "cut down" plant pots are useful as seed pans and also make effective pots for small bulbs, such as Crocuses, mixed early Tupils, etc.—M. A. G., in Poular Garden.

TOAD GOURMANDS FEAST ON

INSECTS, STINGERS AND ALL

Toads are commonly creatures that inspire dislike on the part of the beholder. Nevertheless, the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture finds that toads are distinctly useful in fields and gardens and deserve protection. Their usefulness depends on their appetite. They are gourmands, and eat all sorts of insects in great quantities. True it is that they eat some useful insects, but they eat so many more of harmful insects that the balance is much in their favor.

One of the peculiarities of the toad is its habit of eating stinging or poisonous insects and allied creatures as ants, bees, wasps, rose chafers, blister beetles, millepedes, and poisonous spiders. While they may cause the toad some slight discomfort, the pain evidently is not serious enough to vanquish the toad's appetite. Toads have been known to eat certain plant-eating millipedes, which secrete the highly poisonous hydrocyanic acid.

Of the many kinds of toads living in the various parts of the world today, the United States is the home of what is probably the smallest, the oak toad of the Southeastern States, which feeds chiefly on ants. The Colorado River toad is one of the largest, about 9 inches long, with a mouth large enough to swallow birds, although insects are its principal food.

LATH HOUSE AND OTHER MATTERS

By Alfred D. Robinson

We are now at the season when our garden thoughts are apt to be those which Shakespeare describes as "Benefits forgot." The glory of summer bloom in its frame of vivid green has faded. Stalks topped by dusty seedpods have taken the place of flowers and dead and dying leaves are everywhere. In the lathhouse the wisteria continuously spots the walks with yellow and the gorgeous tuberosous are either despondent stems or have the last bloom of the year hanging out like a signpost saying, "Now winter comes." I sweep and sweep and then sweep again and rearrange but on comes the time of the resting and perforce I must look back or way ahead if results are so much more to me than the labor for its own sake.

You will probably be asking, Why this rhapsody? or more likely, What is eating him now? but my contact with all sorts of people who buy plants, women and now and then a man, forces upon me the thought that the reason we of the West are not yet a Garden folk is that we so concentrate on what we can get out of a garden that there is no room for any consideration of what we should put into it. I do not mean in money or its equivalent but of ourselves. I do not think anyone can really have a garden by just buying one, any more than I believe that one person can make a real garden for another. The essence of a REAL garden is the amount of self put into it by its owner. Of course we are groping around for a garden technique, we think we are being Spanish or English or Italian or French and maybe we are, but in adopting styles from other climes and lands we should not forget that these were evolved over a long period, influenced to a major extent by peculiar characteristics of both climate and people and times, any or all of which may be entirely foreign to us. To instance, the charm of the English garden is of course largely due to the fact that these folks are real gardening people but there is a tremendous amount of it due to a continuously moist climate and the result of years and years of growing. Were a garden exactly duplicating one in England planted in California and given the continuous moisture present over there, the two would not remotely resemble one another in ten years because of the difference of growth under the varying climates.

I have gotten right away from my first thought, which I fear is no uncommon thing, which was our general ingratitude to our gardens when they are taking a breathing spell. This last month many have complained

to me about their tuberous Begonias, which they commonly call "the tubular" in a tone that would suggest a connection with tubercular, they say we won't plant any more, we don't want any plant that goes dormant. Such an one came today and so remarked while we stood and looked at a bed of seedling reds, singles holding up their great blooms and the sunlight through them made the color pulse like racing blood, and forsooth we won't plant them again because they are not there like that all the time. Who asks that a sunset should last? The thought is almost sacrilegious.

Ought we not in common gratitude to turn back to the benefits we have forgot? Cannot we for our own soul's sake think gratefully of what has been done for us by that mysterious agent we call soil, the water and the sun? Is it not a privilege to work with these and bring forth a garden in bloom?

And to plan for the next year, to have an interval between our almost continuous blooming, to think ahead for the next season. Visitors are often saying almost reproachfully, "Oh, you have changed this and that," of course I have, for I cannot recall anything I have ever done that could not have been better, that is when I am honest. I have now plans that are too many and too much for hope of fulfillment in one season or at least that is my sincere hope for I don't want to face my garden with the too frequent modern complaint, There is nothing to do. Yesterday I passed one of those news stands with its million of fictional magazines, but I did not see one seed and plant catalogue and I wondered why, and thought of a little story told me in my chicken days of a wealthy Buffalo gentleman, who said anent his equipment when going for a vacation, "I take along the latest in novels and seed catalogues and I think I prefer the latter as the better fiction."

Do you know how to enjoy these splendid works of imagination? This is my formula. I run through them and look at the color plates and hail with delight my old favorites often unbelievably glorified. I then take a quiet hour and interview the novelties and sometimes get a great kick at finding among them something I have grown for years, last season one of the European houses featured as a novelty that little yellow Mexican calceolaria that Arthur Marston gave me, when we were boys together. Then some day when the radio is blessedly out of order I seriously go through it from cover to cover and mark

all the likely things. Now I give it a rest for a week or so and go through all I have marked and reduce the list very materially and later on I decide to get one package of one thing. That is the sane way to do it, but it takes practice.

From all sides I hear a whisper, if I were a politician I might say "it is in the air," Red spider. An exceptionally dry season has unquestionably fostered this pest and it is safe to conclude that we all have it. Plan for a systematic spraying, probably the first one should be when the lathhouse is as lightly foliated as it gets, but one spraying will be of little help. At least three should be spaced possibly a month apart. By spraying I mean reaching everything plants structure, particularly the roof, and it would be wise to remove all growth on the top. I hear a howl of protest, take down my lovely vines, Yes I shall do it if I can get a man I can trust not to fall through and sue for damages. I also strongly recommend to get rid of all falling leaves, old fern fronds, in fact everything that there is an excuse to remove. It is good practice to let in as much weather as possible. The old idea of saving the leaves and letting them accumulate on the beds is no good in a lathhouse, they are useless and dangerous. How far the leaf mold we bring from our mountains may go in importing insect and fungus trouble I don't know but I wish we had a plant to treat such by steam.

This season as every one before has punctured some old beliefs. I thought I knew Rex Begonias but I don't. They have played as fast and loose with me this year as if they were doing it on purpose. In no degree have they done as well as in '27 and I am pretty sure that all the reasons I have found were not it, so like in most calls of life I hedge by saying, It was an off season, How was it with you?

SHAW'S GARDEN WOOS SPARROWS SO THEY'LL DEVOUR CATERPILLARS

Plague of Insects Has Caused Much Concern There This Year

Employees of the Missouri Botanical Gardens are utilizing their leisure time in building shelters for sparrows and birdhouses for other feathered songsters which remain in St. Louis during the winter when proper protection is offered. The extra work of the laborers is not entirely unselfish, however, for the caterpillar plague this year caused them much trouble and worry.

Birds appeasing their appetites in early spring when caterpillars are juicy and tender can greatly reduce the number of the insects, and will reduce the work of the employees in

Shaw's Garden if they can be coaxed to winter here. That is the opinion of scientists, who have been appealed to for counsel when the caterpillar pest endangered not only the rare trees of the garden, but also the shade trees along the boulevards and city streets.

Sparrows Without Nests

Before the automobile crowded out the horse, sparrows found winter shelter in barns and hay-lofts, but for ten years they have been rapidly disappearing, and in consequence the caterpillar plague has been growing. It is also the purpose of the activities in Shaw's Garden to set an example to be followed by children of St. Louis and by property owners who wish to preserve the shade trees before their homes and on the streets leading to the schools. Making bird houses and erecting shelters, it is suggested, is an interesting pastime for boys and will augment their work in the manual training classes of public and parochial schools.

The campaign for preserving the sparrow, begun by several nature clubs, principally the "Club der Naturfreunde," an organization of botanists of German descent at one time affiliated with the Engelmann Society, received an impetus in the schools during the windy weather last week, when children came to school with their dresses virtually covered with caterpillars, which had been blown from the trees.

Teachers Explain

The children naturally asked the teachers to explain the prevalence of the caterpillars in such numbers and the teachers followed the advice of the scientists given wide publicity during this year in every part of the country visited by the caterpillar plague. Mothers also became interested in the movement when discovering the trails of brown-green spots left behind by the caterpillars on the dresses of the children, which required special treatment in the wash to cause them to disappear.

In Shaw's Garden the caterpillar this year had to be fought by spraying and burning of their spun nests.

GARDEN HOMES

Recent and current issues of that very fine, well illustrated monthly, Garden Homes, published at San Francisco, will be found on the reading tables in the Floral Association Building in the Park. Readers of the California Garden, members of the Association and their friends should read this magazine. It is one of the best and most practical publications of its kind in California.

A GARDEN FOR BUSY PEOPLE

Christian Science Monitor

There are many who forego the pleasures of having a garden simply because of the labor involved in caring for it as the majority of people picture it. A garden, to them, is an exceedingly prim affair, every plant growing just so, with grass edgings closely clipped, all of which is suggestive of labor.

A garden may be planned, however, of a design so simple that it might truly be called a garden for busy people. Having been well prepared in the early spring with an occasional hour devoted to weeding, a garden of this sort will leave the busy person free to spend most of his leisure hours in pure garden enjoyment. The comparative lack of formality is forgotten, and one notices only the riot of bloom and the luxuriance that are in evidence everywhere.

The Design

The design for a garden of this type will depend largely upon its situation and the type of house to which it is to be an adjunct. The garden will naturally be situated as closely as is possible to the house itself, in order that glimpses of its beauty may be enjoyed from the windows. A garden of naturalistic design looks best if its length is exceeded by its width, thus giving it an appearance of greater area than it actually has.

In this garden there will be a path running the full length, with two side paths, one leading to the porch or living-room door and the other to an opening or gate in the surrounding shrubbery, leading to the yard. The paths may be of turf but would be more substantial if laid with flagstones or brick, with bits of turf running between the crevices. The outline of the paths may be marked by an edging of some dwarf shrub, preferably boxwood. If a severe climate forbids the use of box, privet or barberry can be used as a substitute. An effective edging may be made by using southern wood (*artemisia abrotum*), an old-time sub-shrub with finely cut, gray-green foliage possessing a spicy odor.

Suitable Perennials

Since the object of making a garden of this type is the elimination of labor, only the sturdiest perennials should be used therein. When a choice of several dependable perennials has been made, they will be most effective if planted in bold clumps, with the hedge or shrubbery screen surrounding the garden as a background.

The various varieties of *hemerocallis*, or day lilies, are excellent plants of unquestionable hardiness. The old form, *flava*, remains the most beautiful, in spite of the many newer introductions. The delightful fragrance of its flowers is a point very much in its favor.

RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP



Cut Flowers
Floral Designs

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San Diego

Iris and peonies can be used to a great extent. The periods covered by these three plants alone will give flowers from April, with the first showing of *iris pumila*, until August, when *hemerocallis dumortieri* is at its best. The phlox family may be represented by *subulata* for its carpets of lavender and white in April; by Miss Lingard for its abundance of white bloom in June; and by a selection of the named sorts of *phlox paniculata*, that bloom from July until September and which contain a great variety of wonderful colors. The blue and white day lilies (*hosta*, or *punkia*), are very hardy and valuable for their effect in midsummer, which proves a most trying season in most sections of the United States.

Bulbous Plants

The various bulbous plants must be well represented by snowdrops, scillas, hyacinths, tulips, daffodils and crocus. These, at least, are indispensable for their unrivaled beauty in spring. Once planted, they will afterward require no care whatever. Among the true lilies, the *lilium tigrinum*, *candidum*, super-

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bum, elegans, hansonii, regale, and spectabile, are the most dependable.

A few annuals are deserving of admittance if only for their habit of making themselves completely at home in the garden. Poppies, cornflowers, and calliopsis are excellent for cutting and will self-sow abundantly after the first planting.

Taken for granted is the fact that the plants named or any others that may be chosen as suitable for a garden of this sort will be arranged with a strict eye to harmony. A garden could never be tranquil in which plants are mixed up without regard as to whether or not they are congenial as to color or habit of growth.

In a garden of this kind, as in any garden, if it is to be enjoyed in full, there will be a few seats and, perhaps, a table at which one can write or partake of an occasional lunch in the open air.

NOVEMBER WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO

Dean Blake

To many, November is the most enjoyable month of the year. The air is normally clear, dry and invigorating. It is rare that we have a warm, muggy day, and what little hot weather we have had during the month has been attended by low humidity and easterly winds. Occasionally the temperature drops low enough for frost to form in the early morning, and freezing weather may occur in the valleys back from the coast ending the growing season.

Rain may be expected on four or so days. The sunshine is plentiful, the month having the highest percentage of the year. High winds occur but seldom.

Quoting statistics, I find that the highest temperature recorded at the Weather Bureau station since 1872 is 93 degrees and the lowest 36 degrees. Five Novembers have passed without a measurable amount of rain, and six have yielded a total over two inches. The greatest wind velocity was 34 miles per hour in 1919.

HORNED TOAD NOT MERE CURIO— USEFUL AS INSECT EATERS

There has developed a growing business of collecting horned toads and selling them to tourists. The specimens so vended as a rule are taken far from their native homes, maintained in captivity for a time, and in most cases finally starve to death. In any event they are certainly removed as possible breeders of their kind. Fear has been expressed that the horned-toad business is making too great inroads on the stock in some regions, and there is demand that the business be controlled.

Friends of the horned toad have reason for their demands for protection, because these animals are valuable allies in the never-ceasing warfare between man and insects, according to the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture. They feed almost exclusively upon insects, and take such destructive kinds as grasshoppers, caterpillars, wireworms, blister beetles, leaf beetles, weevils, and chinch bugs. They prey especially upon ants, pests of man, which are troublesome in temperate and calamitous in tropical countries. Horned toads make ants a considerable proportion of their whole food, and have been known actually to exterminate a colony of the large and destructive harvester ants.

Horned toads in reality are lizards, as shown by their scaly covering, and not toads, animals that have smooth, moist skins. They have short tails, while toads in the adult state have none. Horned toads give birth to living young, and have the extraordinary power under certain conditions of ejecting fine jets of blood from the eyelids. Horned toads occur in States from Missouri to Idaho and south and west. They are interesting as well as useful members of the native fauna, and States should see to it that they are not commercialized out of existence.

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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912,

Of California Garden, published monthly at Point Loma, California, October, 1928:
State of California, County of San Diego, ss.

Before me, Clerk of Superior Court in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared R. R. McLean, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of the California Garden, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Calif.
Editor, R. R. McLean, San Diego, Calif.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.) San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Cal., Pres. M. A. Greer, 2972 First Street, San Diego, Cal.; Sec. Miss Winifred Sinclair, 3335 Goldsmith St., San Diego, Cal. There is no capital stock.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholders or security holders appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has not reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is: (This information is required from daily publications only.)

R. R. McLEAN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of October, 1928.

J. B. McLEES,
Clerk of Superior Court, San Diego.

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U. C. MAN SAYS WET WINTER IS PROBABLE

On the basis of observations made along the coast of southern California, the state is scheduled for a wet winter this year, according to a report made public by Professor George F. McEwen, of the University of California Scripps Institution of Oceanography at La Jolla. He states that rainfall four inches above normal is indicated.

The method of calculation is as follows: L. E. Blochman, an investigator in rainfall prediction states that summer rains in San Diego exceeding 0.21 inch, the entrance of Pacific low pressures in September and October, and rain in Santa Barbara exceeding one inch in November, are indications of a coming wet season.

George M. French, another investigator, finds that the mean temperatures during March at Los Angeles and San Diego stand in direct relation to the following season rainfall about 70 per cent of the time.

Although predictions on the basis of Blochman's theory are negative, French's observations predict a fairly wet winter. And to lend further support to this prediction, ocean surface temperatures taken by the University at Scripps pier from August 1 to October 12, give an average of 66.4 degrees, or one degree below the mean temperature of the water during the past twelve years. Low water temperature in this period usually means a wet season following. Predictions made to date at Scripps have been 75 per cent accurate. Five times in the past a dry winter has been successfully prognosticated. Three times, in predictions of wet seasons, the data proved to be not strictly accurate.

Professor McEwen points out that all of the indices are still on an empirical basis, and have no adequately established physical basis. They seem to express no more than a fair probability regarding the coming season, but as the supporting factors grow more numerous, this probability will assume increasing weight.

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